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ting, however, the earliest of all, the account in Wyntoun's *Cronykil*) and other extracts from old books illustrating particular features of the play; the first, and more valuable, section is chiefly made up of questions accompanying each step of the action, and problems of interpretation and significance, which the student must solve for himself. Even old Shakespeareans will probably find here views and possibilities that had not occurred to them; while the younger student will be led to look below the surface and see that *Macbeth* is not merely a romantic tale, but a profound study of human souls, and an amazing piece of constructive art.

W. H. B.

Johns Hopkins University.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ON THE PRONUNCIATION OF THE GERMAN *ch*.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES,

SIRS:—I have noticed some discussion as to the pronunciation of the German *ch* in the last two numbers of the MOD. LANG. NOTES. Is it not possible that the gentleman from New Haven and the gentleman from Baltimore could come to some agreement as to the English sounds that approximate the German frontal *ch* if each had an opportunity to hear the pronunciation of *hew* and *hear* from the mouth of the other? Vietor, *German Pronunciation*, second edition, p. 52, remarks, "It is not a regular English consonant, but sometimes occurs as the initial sound of *hue*, *hew*, etc." The statement is certainly correct according to the experience of the writer.

In teaching I have found that I can give the beginner the correct tongue position by having him pronounce first the English *sh* of *she*. Then if the tip of the tongue be lowered to the back of the lower teeth, the tongue is thrown forward into the position in which the German pronounces his frontal *ch*. A reference to the figures on pp. 28 and 29 of Grandgent's *German and English Sounds* will make this clear

to any one who has had a little practical experience in phonetics. Of course the process is somewhat awkward, and a good ear is the greatest help. The great trouble on the part of the American is the tendency to open the mouth too wide and to pronounce the sound too far back on the hard palate. The sound thus produced generally degenerates into a *k*. The tendency to pronounce a *k* can be corrected to some extent by having the pupil exaggerate the length of the sound. It is impossible to pronounce a long *k*. Of course a correct tongue position in the first instance renders the pronunciation of a *k* impossible.

GEORGE M. HOWE.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF GENEVA.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES,

SIRS:—*À propos* of the remarks about the summer session of the University of Grenoble in MOD. LANG. NOTES for February, permit me to call attention to another University which, if not French, is almost within the borders of France, and situated in a city whose mother-tongue is French and almost half of whose population are French citizens.

I believe I am right in saying that the University of Geneva was the *first* to establish a summer session for the benefit of foreign students. The plan was approved by neighboring institutions, such as Lausanne and Grenoble, and they were not slow to adopt the idea. At the summer session of the University of Geneva in 1900 seventeen nationalities were represented; there were five Americans.

Of far greater importance to foreigners than these vacation courses, however good they may be, is the *Séminaire du Français moderne* which forms part of the regular University work of Geneva, and which was founded for the purpose of giving a suitable training to foreigners who wish to teach French. It comprises the following courses: *littérature française moderne; étude des sources pour l'histoire de la littérature et de la langue françaises modernes; histoire des mœurs et des institu-*

tions en pays de langue française dans les temps modernes; méthodes et exercices pratiques d'enseignement; lecture analytique d'auteurs français modernes; stylistique; phonologie; prononciation et diction; syntaxe du Français depuis le xvi^e siècle, gallicismes; composition et improvisation; exercices écrits de langues et de style; conversation. This séminaire gives an excellent practical and theoretical training and has a large enrolment. I may be permitted to mention among the professors of Geneva the well-known, venerable savant, M. Eugène Ritter, who gives the course, *étude des sources*, and M. Bernard Bouvier who is the soul of the séminaire and whose inspiring courses *littérature française moderne* and *lecture analytique* are models of their kind. A *certificat d'aptitude à l'enseignement du français moderne* is given to those who successfully pass the difficult oral and written examinations.

In 1900-1901 there were fourteen Americans in attendance at the University.

It is hardly necessary to add that Geneva is one of the most charming and interesting of European cities, and that a sojourn there is very delightful.

WILLIAM KOREN.

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ROMANIC PHILOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES,

SIRS:—Instruction in Romanic philology at the University of Paris has been greatly strengthened within the past two years. Instead of one chair with assistants, as was the case during the lifetime of the late Prof. Petit de Julleville, there are now two full professors, Thomas and Brunot. As a result the instruction has been more specialized. Prof. Thomas treats the formation of the Romanic languages, and Prof. Brunot the subject of French historical grammar. Both men by their publications have given ample evidence of their ability in their respective fields; Prof. Thomas by his collaboration on the *Dictionnaire général* and by his more recent work, *Mélanges d'Ety-*

mologies; Prof. Brunot by his *Grammaire historique de la langue française*, and by the *Histoire de la langue*, which first appeared in the *Histoire de la langue et de la littérature française*, and, which has since been published separately.

In addition to the university proper the *École de chartes* and the *École des hautes études*, which are now under the same roof as the university and which are scientifically, if not officially, parts of it, offer unusual opportunities in the same lines of study. At the former, Paul Meyer continues his lectures on the Phonology and Morphology of Old French and Provençal, and, at the latter, Gaston Paris offers seminaries on special topics of Romanic philology and supplements this practical work by lectures on Old French Literature at the *Collège de France*. Both these men are so well-known that their names suffice to indicate the high character of their instruction.

A name less widely known but not unfamiliar to readers of the *Romania* is that of Maurice Roques, who has taken the place of Prof. Thomas at the *École des hautes études* and whose seminary in Vulgar Latin is a valuable adjunct to the work in Romanics.

If to this list of men, eminent for their scholarship, are added the phoneticians Rousselot and Passy, it is evident that the University of Paris and the institutions grouped about it, offer at present exceptional advantages for the study of Romanic philology.

EDGAR E. BRANDON.

Paris.

FRENCH LITERATURE.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES,

SIRS:—It seemed to me in reading Dr. Brush's review of Mr. Goodell's *L'Enfant Es-pion* in MOD. LANG. NOTES for February, 1902, pp. 106 and 107, that many mistakes and omissions evident in the edition were passed unnoticed. The following are some of the points which I noted and mentioned to the publishers when the edition appeared.

Among words not explained, or not satis-